

# Daily Eagle

M. M. HURDOCK, Editor.

## BROUGHT HOME TO THEM.

The prospect of a visit from Watson's squadron has caused more uneasiness in Spain and is more sensibly affecting the governing authorities at Madrid than the sinking of Montijo's and Cervera's fleets, or the bombardment of Cuban cities. Heretofore the war has been at great distances. Watson proposes to bring it to the Don's very home. The corrupt and ambitious rulers and thieves of Hispania were losing no sleep from the noise made by cannon thousands of miles away. The queen regent, nor Sagasta, Weyler, nor Don Carlos ever heard the groans of dying soldiers in the Philippines, or the means of starving men and women in the West Indies. These, and all the other asprings and intriguing tools of mediocrity and corruption have prated of hereditary pride and Spanish honor, while the sons of the old Peninsula kingdom have gone down to death from disease, starvation and bullets in far-away islands and provinces. But now that two or three of America's great modern iron engines of destruction are preparing to do for the coast cities of Spain just what the Madrid authorities threatened New York and Boston with, there is a different and a more earnest and serious tone sung by the sycophantic murderers at Madrid. The war, in coming home to them, becomes real. There has been no threat by the United States to land troops at the Canaries, nor upon Spain's Mediterranean possessions. But Spain's navy having been sunk, and with no vessels left to oppose, her rulers realize that the force of the entire navy of the United States can, and is liable at any moment to be hurled against her principal coast cities, and to leave them in ruins. If New England was frightened over the reported appearance of Spanish warships along its coast, what must be the apprehension of the Spanish people with a victorious and invincible armada steaming in the direction of their home cities, and they possessing nothing any longer with which to oppose the threatened destruction. The truth is, for the first time, the war is being forced home upon the distracted and unhappy land of the Don's, and with the fall of Santiago peace should speedily follow. Peace or annihilation, one or the other, must follow, and that soon.

## KANSAS IN THE WAR.

There is evidently a good deal of feeling, which can no longer be categorized as "suppressed indignation," finding expression over Governor Leedy's failure in properly organizing the Kansas volunteers. There has been too much inexcusable blundering upon the one hand and too much favoritism upon the other. The mistake of ignoring the organized militia in the first place, having been condoned, there should have arisen no further cause for complaint and criticism. But it is a fact that Kansas is cutting no figure in the war, whereas thirty years ago, in her youth and comparative weakness, the gallantry of her regiments was the talk of the country. From the battle of Wilson's Creek down to the Appomattox Court House incident, Kansas' soldiers were heard from almost every day. Lee, Hunt, Crawford, Jennison, Montgomery, Martin, Ewing, Cloud, Anthony, Plumb and a dozen other brigade and regimental leaders made names for themselves. Even her militia covered itself with glory at the Little Blue. Kansas men are just as brave and as patriotic as ever, but Kansas men are not going to figure in the present struggle for human freedom. The Twenty-first regiment is lying in the sands of the south learning their lessons, and the Twentieth have been roosting on the curbstones of San Francisco, wondering, no doubt, what they are there for, while the attempt to organize an additional battalion of two, to consist of colored men, has worried along in the most discouraging manner. Letters received from the Twentieth regiment indicate general dissatisfaction, and a dissatisfaction which comes of incompetent officials. The boys have not been treated or handled properly. The governor, in addition to not being in touch with the spirit of the national administration, has attempted to mix up too much personal politics with his tactics, to the disadvantage of the men of the rank and file who patriotically hoped to keep the name of their state at the front and their own valor before the people. It is doubtful if a Kansas organization even gets a chance to participate in a single battle or to witness a single fight. Up to date we have heard commendatory words of but one single Kansas officer, and that was of the commanding officer of the Twenty-first, Colonel Thomas Fitch, who is reported to have the making of a fine officer and a good soldier.

## NO WAR OF CONQUEST.

The minority in congress, which has been asserting that this war is one of conquest, and that the acquisition of the Sandwich Islands would be the first step in imperialism, is now silent. The die is cast, so far as the Hawaiians are concerned, and the results of the war are already in sight. But it is not a war of conquest and will not be made such. If Cuba refuses to be free that island will be held only until her affairs are regulated up to the nineteenth century standard, unless, in the meantime, her people desire their island to become a part of this country, and succeed in such connection in convincing the authorities of this country that such annexation would prove a wise one. As for anything else, the war has not degenerated into one of conquest, nor will it. Brute force and mediocrity oppression will cease in the West Indies and in the Philippines, which will be succeeded by the benign rule of the people. This is not a war of conquest but one of civilization and

freedom for downtrodden peoples. But this country did not say it would pay the cost of the war. The United States never proclaimed that it would expend hundreds of millions for the freedom of Cuba and not insist upon a repayment of the enormous sums expended. The capture of the Philippine islands affords a chance for reimbursing the United States treasury for the enormous losses brought upon it by the war. The sale or cession by these prizes might make good the losses growing out of the conflict. The United States ought to save expenses if the opportunity occurs. There is no reason why this country cannot exact an indemnity when the final settlement is effected.

## SNEAKED IN.

The American papers have not yet ceased to talk of the menacing incident of the Charleston and her transport being followed into the bay of Manila by a German warship. Among the first official announcements of Dewey was the one promising protection to the German, French and other foreign residents in Manila. Notwithstanding this friendly and precautionary act, Germany has kept from four to seven warships in Manila bay, following the Charleston in another, evincing a determination to maintain a semi-hostile attitude toward the United States.

As the ships came up the bay they were closely followed by the Kaiser's Augusta, and the impression given to all who witnessed the incident was that she was not only making a close observation of the American troops but endeavoring to show both Americans and Spanish that Germany did not intend to take the part of a neutral in the settlement of the Philippine question. It is not easy, on any theory consistent with the sanity of the German emperor and his advisers, to understand why Germany should persist in maintaining a distinctly unfriendly attitude toward this republic, and it is possible that the latest news from Santiago may cause the transmission of orders from Berlin that will change the policy of the arrogant German officers. But that is their own affair. The attitude of Germany throughout this war has been one of ill-suppressed antagonism to the United States, and if the Kaiser chooses to push this into overt acts of hostility, the responsibility will be his and the nation's that tolerates him. Certain it is that the United States will endure no interference from any foreign power in the settlement of its quarrel with Spain.

## A CHANCE AT BILL.

There is looming up a seeming opportunity for a "round-up" with the Imperial emperor of United Germany. That individual has been seeking a preference ever since President McKinley declared that Cuba must be free, to get into trouble with the American. The European edition of the New York Herald publishes upon what is claimed to be the highest Spanish authority the cession by Spain to Germany of Yolo, one of the Sulu Islands. The Sulu Islands are a chain from Mindanao to Borneo and really a part of the Philippines, a territory over which the United States contends with Spain for possession. Now that Spain has been made to loosen her grip and the United States tightens hers day by day, the cession of a part of the islands to Germany is too palpable to deceive anyone. Should Germany attempt to maintain government of any kind over the islands, the United States must challenge the obvious trespass. In obtaining possession of Yolo and maintaining autonomy over the other Sulu Islands, Germany would obtain a foothold in the Philippines that would be a menace to America. This government cannot permit the trouble-seeking Kaiser to keep his feet upon our property, and the other European powers will demand that he be made to retire.

## SPANISH STATESMANSHIP.

Sagasta declares that it would look like cowardice for Spain to sue for peace upon the heels of the destruction of Cervera's fleet. A queer man, with queer notions of bravery and honor, is the Don. Undoubtedly Montijo had sunk Dewey, and Cervera had got safely away, then Spanish honor would have found it incumbent to surrender. But this being a war on the water—a battle of the seas—and the Spanish navy practically annihilated, any talk of peace upon the part of the Spanish authorities at Madrid becomes an impossibility. Spain is no longer a naval power. It would take years of time and millions of money for Spain to build another navy. Of the six modern armored ships which bore on the seas the Spanish flag when war was declared seventy-five days ago, only the Pelayo and Carlos V are still afloat, being in the fleet of Admiral Camara. Of her half-dozen modern cruisers in the two classes before these ships, which were in commission at the outbreak of the war, one-half have been destroyed, not to mention the several minor vessels which have been sunk, captured or disabled all the way from Porto Rico to Manila. The fighting strength of Spain on the sea practically has been obliterated, for she no longer has sufficient formidable modern ships for the formation of a fleet that could menace us at any point. The cost of the fleet destroyed, computed by Brassey to be \$12,000,000, exclusive of the two torpedo gunboats, which also were wrecked. The pages of history would have to be scoured with a sharp eye for the record of a navy of such proportions suffering equally appalling losses in ten weeks of war.

Any thought or talk of peace upon the part of the Americans, therefore, in the estimation of the Spanish government is insulting. Such are the unfathomable workings of the Spanish mind along diplomatic and statesmanship lines. For three years the crown's government at Madrid persisted in provoking war with this country. They

longed and hungered for the contest, for the same reasons, evidently, that it would prolong the, for them, hopeless struggle. Some of her leaders have candidly informed us that the fight would go on until Spanish honor has been satisfied, but since that quality is supposed to be lacking in us it would be unsafe for us to make any calculations on this basis. It does not seem possible, however, to extract any comfort for Spanish honor from the flight and capture of Cervera in the Caribbean sea and the sinking of Montijo in the bay of Manila, and what she can expect now in the way of a possible victory is beyond the comprehension of all the balance of the world. There is, under the circumstances, but one thing for the government of the United States to do and that is to go straight ahead and right on, day and night, until no soldier or symbol of Spain can longer be found disgracing and outraging the civilization of the nineteenth century.

## IGNORANT PREJUDICE.

The Spanish soldiers at Santiago expressed surprise that General Shafter's men did not outrage the women of Caney and commit all manner of reprehensible acts. The men taken with Cervera's fleet seemed to expect inhuman treatment. It is hard to account for such a prejudice, so evidently founded upon ignorance, in this age and day. There seems little doubt that the desperate determination of the Spanish soldiers to die in the trenches of Santiago rather than surrender comes of a fear of brutality upon the part of the American army. They fear the same treatment which their rulers have subjected the poor natives of the Philippines and of Cuba for a hundred years. The Spanish officers industriously circulated reports about the tortures which might be expected in case of capture or surrender, among their troops at Caney and Santiago. So the first thing a Spaniard prisoner proceeds to do on being captured is to plead to be treated like a human being. What is true of the ill-founded prejudice of the Spanish soldier is true of the people of the great Peninsula. The ruling classes know better, who, but for such prejudice and ignorance, would not be rulers.

## SUPERIORITY COUNTS.

American "sleepers" and palace day coaches, pulled by American engines, are found in every quarter of the globe. This is true of a thousand other machines and utility inventions. The superiority of the Yankee's inventive genius and industrial resources are of well nigh universal acknowledgment. Only in the building of great battleships and other engines of war has the American been considered as holding a second place. But, as was stated by the Eagle the other morning, all Europe is wondering why no American battleships have gone down under the land batteries to whose fire the fleets respectively have been subjected. That these vessels, and a number of the armored cruisers, have been frequently hit by heavy projectiles from first-class guns is no longer denied. Spanish gunnery is very inaccurate and unscientific, but by accident, or otherwise, a projectile now and then landed, if without effect. So the naval experts of Europe have been set to thinking and naval officers to talking, not only about America's effective armor plates and expert or scientific gunners, but of the all-around mechanical perfection of our navy's construction and its machinery. After the Oregon had completed her long journey in such magnificent shape, the Russian government sent for the superintendent of the shipyard in which she was built, to confer regarding the construction of several Russian warships. Since the destruction of Cervera's fleet, a Berlin correspondent of the London Mail writes that the superiority of American armor plates and artillery over those of Europe has been proven, and that it is likely that America will receive orders for the construction of guns, armor plating and other implements of war from Europe. The intelligence and skill of the American mechanics are being recognized the world over. Our machinery and engines are being sold under contract in European countries, and it seems that the United States will soon become the shipyard of the world. After this compliment from European powers, it will be a hard matter to restrain our merchant marine from assuming its just proportions.

The Latin races are not in it. Mighty Rome put up a poster that she should be ashamed of. The nations of the world can talk peace as long without getting it as they can talk war without getting that. It takes twenty columns to tell what a battleship can do in battle and about one column to tell what it does do. The fight at Santiago has simply been our way of catching the Spaniards in order to give them something to eat. Blanco has 20,000 men in Havana, well provisioned, who have been working on defense now for two months. The war is not over.

When it comes, the siege of Havana will be one of the most memorable in history. Blanco is preparing to put up a tremendous defense. General Miller will soon be in Cuba. At the next battle he must be in it, and in the thick of it. War is magnificent, but it isn't all postures. If the Spanish were not completely frustrated they could get a little encouragement out of the way of Schuyler and Sampson feel toward each other. Here, N. Latin, here. Def. A man who has done a brave thing at an opportune time and accomplishes something by it, but doesn't think it amounted to much himself. Sampson has been on intimate terms with his brain in not going into that harbor. The Spanish, not Hobson, sunk the Merrimack. Spanish torpedoes blew it up.

## Rough Rider's Baptism.

A correspondent to the New York Evening Post, writing from Siboney, June 6, says: "I now comprehend that yesterday's skirmish between ambushed Spaniards and Rough Riders was a mere mess-up, due to want of the most ordinary military prudence. The Spaniards, who were ahead, and following, single file, were a drummer, a corporal, a sergeant, and a son-of-a-bitch, all advancing along the trail through the close-growing brush, and after a day's work. Above the tramping noises and the confusion of voices you could hear Jim Smith, who used to lead and strike at Red Horse, Indian Territory, arguing with much blasphemy about the capabilities of Sheriff Sikes in sobering up, though nearly insensible with drink, to surrender, or suffer the consequences of his rashly rapping accent of Led Jinks, asserting: 'Now, ———, it's his name Green, I tell ye.' There was another sound, too, and corresponding to the one I heard during the anxious nights at Camp McCalla felt exciting apprehensions. It was the soft coo-coo-coo of the wood-dove in the chaparral."

In vain did they warn the officers that the cooing of the wood-dove was for some one the knell of death. These troops were fresh from the transports, having no acquaintance with the Cuban high or Spanish warfare. It is difficult at first to realize in war that human beings with guns are lying in wait for you, and that they will kill you. The Rough Riders, however, less troops, excreting the sun which made them drop out and sit by the wayside, or throw off their blankets and half-dressed as deadly, burdensome, or suffer the consequences of their rashly rapping accent, or fall back to the hospital line, or tumble, overcome, in the path. Forward the line came across the dead body of a Spaniard, who had been shot in the back, and was not heard above the clamor of marching and talking. Immediately there was firing from left, right and front. But you know the story. 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